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# ***Panther Sports News***

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LS-Softball

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's softball coach has acquired one of Illinois' finest athletes.

Alexandra "Zami" Mogill, a senior at Streator High School, signed a letter of intent to attend EIU Wednesday (April 11) as Lady Panther head coach Deanna D'Abbraccio opened her recruiting year.

Mogill, a 5-foot-4 pitcher, led her team to the state championship last season as she compiled a 29-1 record and a stingy 0.51 ERA. Her efforts earned her the Most Valuable Player selection at the state tournament as her team finished with a 30-2 record.

"Undoubtedly I'm thrilled to have signed such a great athlete," D'Abbraccio said. "I consider her one of the top high school prospects in the Midwest. Not only is she the kind of athlete we like to recruit, but she is also a good student."

Mogill has amassed some amazing statistics during her first three seasons at Streator, including 744 strikeouts, 13 no-hitters and 71 victories. Last season she fanned 285 batters and walked only 75 as she threw six no-hit wins en route to the state title.

She has begun this season right where she left off last year, pitching three games without allowing an earned run or walking a batter.

Mogill's statistics place her among the best high school hurlers to have ever played in the United States. Her three-year strikeout total and slew of no-hitters have already surpassed the national marks listed in the high school record book compiled by the Federation of State High School Associations. Her victory total would place her second on the all-time list, but her marks have not yet been entered into the record book. However, the pitching phenomenon's father, A. T. Mogill, who is also head coach at Streator, has submitted her records for consideration by the FSHSA.

Zami's father attributed a large portion of her success to her hard work and a wide variety of pitches.

"I've clocked her fastball in the upper 60s (miles per hour) outside and low 70s indoors," Mogill said. "But you can't win by just throwing fastballs. What makes it work is that she has the best changeup in the country. You don't know it's a change until it's right at the plate because she throws it with absolutely no change in arm speed."

In addition to the blazing fastball and confusing changeup, Mogill throws a knuckleball, giving her an excellent repertoire for a prep pitcher, D'Abbraccio said.

"And, she has excellent control of all those pitches," she added.

With Zami joining the Eastern program, D'Abbraccio said Eastern's future could be very promising.

"Softball teams are built around strong pitching and she definitely fits into that category. She comes from an excellent softball program and she knows how to win," D'Abbraccio said.